

May 1, 2014
Sheboygan Av. Community Garden Board

Cindy Statz, Pat Soderholm, Yuhua Li, Young Soon Lee, Geren Zhang, Mary McCarthy

March 6, 2014 Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

I Reports

- A. Treasurer:** \$8,800 in the bank. All current expenditures are included. The \$200 Sr. Center Deposit will be refunded at the end of the year.

- B. 2014 Registration Report – Leann Tigges**
102 gardeners have registered so far. I contacted 60 people on our wait list and we now have 22 confirmed new gardeners. Depending on what size plot desired by 2 of the most recent registrants, we may have one plot yet to assign.

This registration period cleared names that had joined the wait list between August of 2012 and Feb. 7, 2014 (18 months). Approximately 25 names remain on the list.

II Unfinished Business – Cindy Statz

- A. Tools & Equipment** – Spades and brushes are needed. Board members are requested to purchase small tools if they find something appropriate and submit the expense. Existing and new small hand tools will be spray painted with bright identifiable **orange** paint. Three hose holders and a few longer hoses will be purchased. A new back-up fire hose will be purchased. An orchard saw was requested.

The wood members of the picnic table by the Garden sign will be replaced: condition of the other picnic tables will be assessed. Recycled plastic materials will be researched for the picnic tables.

SCG will secure (5) additional water barrels to be placed on the east side of the garden. The safety of low cost food grade barrels will be researched. The board approved spending up to \$20/barrel. A sifting stand will be constructed. A material list and instructions have been provided. Cindy is donating cedar boards.

Pat S. will look into the cost of a Little Free Library for garden resources. Pat S. will research the possibility of a bat house. Two signs to note that the gardens are personal property “please do not take vegetables and do not smoke in the garden” will be posted.

A perimeter fence was suggested.

- B. Spring Meeting Review** More than 60 people attended. Consider moving to a week or so before the first work day.

- C. Community Action Community (CAC) Garden Program** – Will disband May 15. UW Extension is providing a VISTA position to help transition from CAC to a new gardening program in Dane County.

- D. Garden Preservation.** The garden is likely safe for 2014 and 2015. A RFP for new developer for the DOT site has not been received yet.

New Business

- A. **UW Horticulture program** – is interested in working with community gardens to learn how to choose vegetables and which vegetables fare best. The program would like to talk with gardeners to get ideas on vegetables to try in test space in the community garden. UW students and volunteers will man the garden. Gardeners will be invited to participate in taste tests late in the season.

The board determined that there is not room at the Sheboygan garden for this program.

- B. **Resources** - Compost from Dane County is no longer delivered. Purple Cow Composting does deliver, but we have not received a price. Working on wood chips. Expect to have hay and straw ready by next work day – May 17. Planning to get piles turned early on May 17. The herb garden and flowers will be planted again this year around the picnic tables. Pat S. will purchase edging for the herb garden.
- C. **Garden Brunch – 11am on June 21** (which is also a work day). Balloons will be provided
- D. **Make Music Madison – Noon – 2pm on June 21** – Sheboygan Garden will be listed in the Isthmus as Sheboygan Av. Community Garden. Music may be located in the garden. A canopy for musicians would be good. Theme – Here Comes the Sun. Cold water, watermelon and small sandwiches will be provided.
- E. **Mint Notice** – Mint is not allowed in garden unless it is contained in beds. A notice explaining how to eradicate unwanted mint as well as how to safely grow container mint will be posted on the board and sent out to the gardeners.

IV Announcements

Van Hise Kindergartners – Plan to visit the garden on May 23. A notice will be sent to the gardeners that the children will be in the garden. Pat S. will work on a little game for the children.

A notice will go to gardeners that there will be a class in the garden on May 3 at 10 and 11am on how to start your garden.

Ann Casey will be invited to speak to the Board on Acorn Fundraising at the next Board Meeting - May 29. Pat will reserve the Monticello. Board meetings will always be on the 4th Thursday of the month.